NOTE II.

A NEW GENUS AND FOUR NEW SPECIES OF ELATERIDAE FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE LEYDEN MUSEUM.

BY

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1. *Psephus seniculus*, sp. n.

Fusco-castaneus, subnitidus, cinereo-pilosulus, fronte convexa, apice parum porrecta; antennis articulis 2 et 3 parvis aequalibus; prothorace latitudine haud longiore, aequaliter convexo, crebre fortiterque punctato, angulis posticis retrorsum productis, brevibus, carinatis; elytris saepe brunnescentibus, tenuiter striato-punctatis, interstitiis planis, transversim subgranulatis; corpore subtus concolore, prosterni mucrone recto. — Long. 11 mm., lat. 3 mm.

Hab. Zanzibar. — The specimens of the Leyden Museum were forwarded from the interior (Marangnombe). My own collection contains several specimens captured by Mr. Schaedle at Bagamoyo.

This species resembles in general aspect *Psephus aeneolus* Cand. [1]) and also to a certain extent *Psephus brevipennis* Cand. [2]). Its essential characteristic is the very short and

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1) *Mémoires de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Belgique.* Tom. XVII (1865). p. 20.

2) E. Candèze, *Monographie des Elatérides.* Tom. II. p. 27, n°. 10.

white pubescence which considerably modifies the brown color of the teguments.

The genus *Psephus* seems to be widely distributed in the intertropical parts of Africa, especially in that zone which belongs to the southern hemisphere, and the collections sent from those regions generally contain a few specimens of different species.

2. *Elius elegans*, sp. n.

Sanguineus, nitidus parce fulvo-pilosulus; fronte fortiter punctata, apice arcuata, porrecta; antennis nigris, basi rufis, articulis 2 et 3 minutis aequalibus, sequentibus hirsutis; prothorace latitudine breviore, a basi angustato, sparsim tenuiter punctato, angulis posticis vix divaricatis, acute carinatis; elytris nigerrimis, striato-punctatis, punctis profundis; corpore subtus crebe punctato, sanguineo, pedibus concoloribus. — Long. 6 mm., lat. $1^1/_2$ mm.

Hab. Borneo.

When Ilately described a new genus (*Sephilus*) from Malacca, belonging to the tribe of the Dicrepidiites, I expressed the opinion that the Indian Elateridae of this tribe required revision as their number is gradually increasing (*Annali del Museo Civico di Storia naturale di Genoa.* vol. XII. p. 109). So for example the genus *Elius*, which was founded on a species from Southern Hindostan, now-a-days counts no less than six species and there is no doubt that their number will yet increase considerably, for though the individuals representing these species may be rare, they seem on the contrary to range over a vast tract in the hottest regions of India. The consequence is that the characteristics which were originally established for the genus will have to be somewhat modified in order to allow the introduction of those species which afterwards have been grouped round the original type.

The *Elius* seem to represent in the old continent, or at least in the Indies, the American *Anoplischius.*

Telesus, g. n.

Frons antice carinata, truncata, lamina reflexa biimpressa, margine angulata; labrum minutum, rotundatum; palporum articulus ultimus triangularis.

Antennae breves, articulis carinatis.

Prosterni suturae laterales rectae, haud canaliculatae.

Mesosterni fossula oblonga, marginibus depressis.

Coxarum posticarum laminae intus rectangulariter dilatatae, extus subito angustatae.

Pedes normalis, tarsorum articulus quartus dilatatus et lobatus, quintus brevis, unguibus minutis terminatus.

This genus must take its place in the tribe of the Monocrepidiites.

The genus *Monocrepidius*, the type of this tribe, has been established for a group of very numerous insects which have however certain constant characteristics making the genus a very natural one. These characteristics consist in the structure of the fourth joint of the tarsi which is sometimes dilated and always provided with an inferior foliate appendix, in the protruding shape of the front, the straightness of the prosternal sutures, and the semicircular dilatation of the coxal laminae.

The new genus here proposed presents all these characteristics but with important modifications. Thus the front is protruding but that part which is bent towards the labrum is shaped quite differently from the genus *Monocrepidius:* it is large and provided with two foveola; the coxal laminae are dilated on the inner side, but have a square instead of a curvilinear shape; the fifth joint of the tarsi is proportionally shorter and the claws remarkably small. It is, in short, a very curious modification of the type *Monocrepidius.*

The new generic division is interesting because it represents the *Monocrepidius* in Africa. The latter are numerous in North and South America, in Asia and in Australia, but in Europe and Africa they are totally wanting.

Up to this time the present genus contains only the following species:

3. *Telesus Ritsemae*, sp. n.

Castaneus, parum nitidus, breviter albo-pilosulus; fronte crebre punctata, biimpressa; prothorace tumido, latitudine longiore, aequali, crebre punctato, angulis posticis brevibus, acutis, carinatis; elytris parallelis, striis subtilibus parum distincte punctatis, interstitiis planis subgranulatis; pedibus brunneis. — Long. 12 mm., lat. fere 3 mm.

One specimen found at Chimfimo (Chinfino), a factory which is situated on the southern bank of the river Kacongo, north of the river Zaïre or Congo (South West Africa).

4. *Agonischius ornatus*, sp. n.

Niger, nitidus, nigro-pilosulus; fronte crebre et profunde punctato; antennis articulis 4—9 gradatius dilatatis; prothorace transverso, parce tenuiter punctato, corallino, basi apiceque medio nigro-marginata; elytris striato-punctatis, interstitiis parce punctulatis, cyaneo-nigris, vitta brevi scutellari, alteraque marginali abbreviata luteis. — Long. 7 mm., lat. 2 mm.

Hab. Andaï (New-Guinea). — One specimen discovered by Mr. C. B. H. von Rosenberg.

This pretty species is easily recognizable and sufficiently characterized by its varied coloration. Its place must be among the species with broad antennae near the *Agonischius mirus* Cand. [1]).

Glain near Liége, October 1879.

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[1]) E. Candèze, *Monographie des Elatérides.* Tom. IV. p. 412, nº. 3